



Madurai Kamaraj University
(University with Potential for Excellence)
Re-accredited by NAAC with 'A++' Grade in the 4th Cycle



Centre for Educational Research

Organize a One-day Celebration of
"PERUNTHALAIVAR KAMARAJAR'S 124TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY"
(EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT DAY)
(15th July, 2026)

Programme Report

Director
Dr. R. Annadurai

Organizing Secretary
Dr. M. Rajeshkumar

Organizing Joint Secretary
Dr. B. Kannan



Report on the celebration of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar's 124th Birth Anniversary (Education Development Day)

In honour of the legendary leader and former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Bharat Ratna, Perunthalaivar K. Kamarajar, his Birth Anniversary was celebrated** with great enthusiasm as “**Education Development Day**” (கல்வி வளர்ச்சி நாள்) on **July 15, 2026**. The grand event was organized by the Centre for Educational Research at Madurai Kamaraj University (MKU). The celebration saw active participation from University administrators, professors, research scholars, and postgraduate students.

FLORAL TRIBUTE AT KAMARAJAR STATUE

Before the commencement of the main programme, Dr. S. Muthiah, Registrar, Madurai Kamaraj University, and Prof. M. Kanmani, Controller of Examinations, Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University, Chennai, along with Faculty members and administrative staff, assembled in front of the main administrative building of Madurai Kamaraj University to pay homage to Thiru K. Kamarajar. A large flower garland was reverently laid on the statue of the great leader, symbolizing collective respect and gratitude for his monumental contributions to education and social upliftment.



TRIBUTE AND FELICITATION

The event commenced with a solemn tribute to the visionary leader. The Registrar, the Chief Guest, Faculty members of the Centre for Educational Research, and Professors from various other departments paid their respects by showering flowers and placing garlands on the Portrait of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar. Following the tribute, the dignitaries on stage were formally welcomed. As a token of respect and appreciation, they were honoured with traditional shawls and presented with mementos.



WELCOME ADDRESS

Dr. R. Annadurai, Director, Centre for Educational Research, delivered the welcome address. In his speech, he welcomed the gathered dignitaries, faculty, research scholars, and students and detailed the core objectives of organizing this celebration. He emphasized how Kamarajar's educational reforms laid the foundation for modern Tamil Nadu.



PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Dr. S. Muthaiah, Registrar of Madurai Kamaraj University, presided over the function and delivered an inspiring presidential address. He urged the student community to deeply reflect on and internalize the core characteristics that defined Perunthalaivar Kamarajar as an iconic leader. Dr. Muthaiah systematically analyzed Kamarajar's multi-faceted personality, highlighting him as a:

- **Selfless Leader:** Dedicated entirely to the welfare of the public without any personal expectations.

- **Good Administrator & Effective Planner:** Possessing an innate ability to design and execute long-term developmental frameworks for the state.
- **Excellent Decision Maker:** Renowned for his pragmatic, swift, and firm resolutions on critical governance issues.
- **Extraordinary Time Management Practitioner:** Demonstrating an impeccable discipline in utilizing time efficiently to serve the people.

Educational & Agricultural Revolution: Focusing on Kamarajar's monumental contributions to Tamil Nadu's infrastructure, the Registrar highlighted his visionary work in basic education and rural upliftment. Under Kamarajar's governance, a historic total of **15,000 new schools** were opened across the State. To ensure that poverty did not keep children away from classrooms, he pioneered the revolutionary **Mid-Day Meals Scheme**. Dr. S. Muthaiah pointed out that these grassroots foundational reforms were instrumental in systematically raising the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) by over 15% as students progressed into higher education. Furthermore, he noted that Kamarajar placed equal emphasis on agrarian prosperity by constructing **numerous dams**, recognizing that a strong agricultural foundation was vital for the state's economic survival.



Classical Literary Connections to a Visionary Life: In a deeply moving segment of his speech, the Registrar beautifully interlaced classical Tamil literature to contextualize Kamarajar's governance principles of social justice and equity. He masterfully quoted verses from **Thirikadugam, Naaladiyar, and Thirukkural** to demonstrate how Kamarajar's everyday actions and political decisions perfectly mirrored the ancient Tamil ideals of righteous leadership, charity, and wisdom. He concluded by stating that Kamarajar effectively connected his entire life's work to the service of the common man, leaving behind a blueprint of ethical governance that modern students must strive to emulate.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The keynote address was delivered by **Prof. M. Kanmani**, Controller of Examinations and Dean of Faculty, Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University, Chennai.



Prof. Kanmani madam highlighted her speech by expressing her profound pride and privilege in speaking about Perunthalaivar Kamarajar on this auspicious day. She went on to deliver a highly inspiring and historically rich lecture, focusing on the following key areas:

- **Sacrifice for the Common Cause:** She reminded the audience of Kamarajar's immense personal sacrifices during the freedom struggle and social movements, highlighting that he spent over **3,000 days in prison** solely for the welfare of society and the nation.
- **Pioneering Social Justice:** Prof. Kanmani commended Kamarajar's visionary approach to social justice and equity. She pointed out that he pioneered the expansion of the **OBC reservation policy** for educational opportunities in Tamil Nadu, implementing these progressive measures long before the Central Government adopted them nationwide.
- **Realizing Self-History:** Drawing a powerful connection to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, she quoted his philosophy that *one must first realize and understand their own history in order to make history*. She urged the students to understand the struggles of their ancestors to appreciate the rights they enjoy today.
- **Erasing Hunger to Enable Learning:** Referencing Swami Vivekananda's famous philosophy, *"If a person is hungry, give them food first,"* Prof. Kanmani explained how Kamarajar translated this spiritual wisdom into a practical administrative masterstroke. By introducing the revolutionary **Mid-day Meal Scheme**, Kamarajar ensured that hunger never stood in the way of a child's education, brilliantly executing a vision that brought millions of marginalized children into classrooms.
- **The Wealth of Education:** To emphasize the supreme value of learning, she quoted the ancient Tamil text **Naaladiyar**, which extols education as the only indestructible wealth that cannot be stolen or diminished.
- **Expansion through Partnership (Aided Institutions):** Prof. Kanmani detailed how Kamarajar rapidly expanded the educational network across Tamil Nadu. By encouraging local philanthropists and founders to establish educational institutions and assuring them of **complete Government assistance and financial aid**, he raised the number of aided institutions exponentially, guaranteeing basic education for all.
- **A Quiet Social Revolution:** In a deeply moving segment of her speech, she highlighted a lesser-known but highly significant social revolution championed by Kamarajar. While wealthy families had the land and resources to perform final rites on their private properties, the poor, deprived, and marginalized communities had no such privilege. Recognizing this systemic inequality, Kamarajar constructed dedicated roads to burial grounds (*sudukadu*) for the underprivileged, restoring dignity to them even in death.

A Call to the Student Community

Concluding her powerful address, Prof. Kanmani passionately called upon the research scholars and postgraduate students to deeply realize the monumental role Kamarajar played in shaping modern Tamil Nadu. She urged them not to take their academic privileges for granted, but to utilize the vast opportunities made possible by Kamarajar's sacrifices to make his ultimate dream of an egalitarian, highly educated society a reality.



VOTE OF THANKS

The successful event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by **Dr. M. Rajeshkumar**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Educational Research, who thanked the University administration, the chief guest, the organizing team, and the students for making the celebration a memorable success.



The programme was seamlessly hosted by **Dr. B. Kannan**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Educational Research, who served as the master of ceremonies.

Celebration Photos







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CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH



**Celebration of the Birth Anniversary of
Bharat Ratna Thiru. K. Kamaraj
as "Educational Development Day"**

15th July 2026

Inaugural Function

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Venue: Department of Education

Dr. R. Annadurai

Director i/c

Centre for Educational Research, MKU

Welcomes

Dr. S. Muthiah

Registrar i/c

Madurai Kamaraj University

Presides & Inaugurates

Prof. M. Kanmani

Controller of Examinations i/c & Dean of Faculty
Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University, Chennai

Delivers the Keynote Address

Dr. M. Rajeshkumar

Assistant Professor

Centre for Educational Research, MKU

Propose the Vote of Thanks

All are cordially invited

**Director &
Faculty Members, CER-MKU**


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NEWS & PULSE

MKU pays tributes to great leader Kamarajar on his birth anniversary; Varsity staff rededicate for educational development

BY Shastry V Mallady

Jul 15, 2026, 20:25 Pm [🗨️ 0](#)



தினக் கதிர்



தமிழகம் ஒன்றும்

DHINAKATHIR THIKKETTUM OLIRUM TAMIL DAILY

★ கதிர் : 03 ★ ஒளி : 244 ★ மதுரை ★ 18-07-2026 ★ சனிக்கிழமை ★ 4 பக்கம் ★ விலை 500 ரூபாய்
★ VOL : 03 ★ ISSUE : 244 ★ MADURAI ★ 18-07-2026 ★ SATURDAY ★ 4 PAGES ★ PRICE 500 PAISE

மதுரை காமராஜர் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தில் மாபெரும் மரியாதை; கல்வி வளர்ச்சிக்கு மீண்டும் அர்ப்பணிக்க பல்கலைக்கழக ஊழியர்கள் உறுதி

மதுரை, ஜூலை.18-
காமராஜரின் 124-வது பிறந்தநாளை முன்னிட்டு, மதுரை காமராஜர் பல்கலைக்கழக வளாகத்தில் முன்னாள் முதல்வர் கே. காமராஜருக்கு சிறப்பான முறையில் மலர்ஞ்சலி செலுத்தி மரியாதை செய்யப்பட்டது. பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் பல்வேறு துறைகளைச் சேர்ந்த ஊழியர்கள் மற்றும் பேராசிரியர்கள் பெருந்திரளாகக் கலந்துகொண்டு, அவரது சிலைக்கு மலர் தூவி மரியாதை செலுத்தியதுடன், கல்விப் பணிக்காக தங்களை மீண்டும் அர்ப்பணிப்பதாக உறுதி ஏற்றனர்.

ஒவ்வொரு ஆண்டும் 'கல்வி வளர்ச்சி நாளாகக்' கொண்டாடப்படும் காமராஜரின் பிறந்தநாளை சிறப்பிக்கும் வகையில்,



மதுரை காமராஜர் பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் கல்வி ஆராய்ச்சி மையம் (CER) இந்த சிறப்பு நிகழ்ச்சிக்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்திருந்தது.

இவ்விழாவில், பல்கலைக்கழகத்தின் பொறுப்புப் பதிவாளர் டாக்டர் எஸ். முத்தையா, தேர்வுக்கட்டுப்பாட்டுப் பொறுப்பு அதிகாரி பேராசிரியர் எம். கண்மணி

(மீன், தமிழ்நாடு ஆசிரியர் கல்வியியல் பல்கலைக்கழகம் சென்னை), கல்வி ஆராய்ச்சி மைய (சிணிஸி) பொறுப்பு இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் ஆர். அண்ணாதுரை மற்றும் சிணிஸி உதவிப் பேராசிரியர் டாக்டர் எம். ராஜேஷ்குமார் உள்ளிட்ட பலர் கலந்துகொண்டு காமராஜரின் உருவப்படத்திற்கும் சிலைக்கும் மரியாதை

செலுத்தினர். மேலும், கல்வித் துறைக்கு பாரத ரத்னா கே. காமராஜர் ஆற்றிய மகத்தான பங்களிப்புகளை அவர்கள் நினைவு கூர்ந்தனர்.

“காமராஜரின் தொலைநோக்குக் கல்விச் சிந்தனை நமது மாநிலத்தில் உயர்கல்வித் துறைக்கு வழிகாட்டும் சக்தியாகவும், மொத்த சேர்க்கை விகிதத்தை (Gross Enrolment Ratio) அதிகரிப்பதற்கும் தொடர்ந்து துணையாக இருந்து வருகிறது. அவர் நிகழ்த்தியது ஒரு மாபெரும் சமூக மறுமலர்ச்சி ஆகும். மாபெரும் தலைவர் காமராஜர் கண்ட கல்விச் சிந்தனையின் கனவை நனவாக்க, கல்விப் பணிக்காக எங்களை நாங்கள் மீண்டும் முழுமையாக அர்ப்பணிக்கிறோம்” என்று தெரிவித்தனர்.